

## COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROGRAM INFORMATION

### **CIAP Contact**

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Under the Coastal Impact Assistance Program, Alaska will receive a one-time appropriation of \$7.9 million (another \$4.27 million is congressionally allocated to eligible coastal communities).

Uses of the CIAP funds must be consistent with the authorized uses in the legislation, including: conservation, restoration, enhancement or protection of coastal or marine habitat, wetlands, watersheds and water quality; research, mapping and education; and implementation of federal conservation management plans.

The Governor must prepare and submit a plan to the Secretary of Commerce that describes how the amounts provided under the CIAP will be used. The plan was submitted to the Secretary, through NOAA, on July 3, 2001.

You can download a pdf file or a word document of the final Coastal Impact Assistance Plan:

### **Background**

The Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) has its roots in the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) which did not pass in the last congressional session. As a compromise measure, the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act was amended to include the coastal impact assistance program. The program authorizes provide a one-time appropriation of \$150 million to be divided among the seven states with offshore oil activities. The seven eligible states are: Alabama, Alaska, California, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.

The formula for distribution among the states is:

60% divided equally among the producing states;  
40% based on Outer Continental Shelf production.

Based on this formula, Alaska will receive a one-time appropriation of \$12,208,723. \$7,935,670 will be allocated to the state and \$4,273,053 will be divided among coastal political subdivisions.

### **Authorized Uses**

The legislation lists authorized uses of CIAP funds. Any use of the funds must be consistent with the uses listed in the legislation. The specific authorized uses of the funds are:

1. uses set forth in section 32(c) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act proposed by the amendment to H.R. 701 of the 106th Congress as reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The uses are:

(A) activities which support and are consistent with National Estuary programs, including National Estuarine Research Reserve programs, the National Marine

Sanctuary Act, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, or the Coastal Zone Management Act;

(B) conservation, restoration, enhancement or protection of coastal or marine habitats including wetlands, estuaries, coastal fishery resources and coral reefs, including projects to remove abandoned vessels or marine debris that may adversely affect coastal habitats;

(C) protection, restoration and enhancement of coastal water quality consistent with the provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.), including the reduction or monitoring of coastal polluted runoff or other coastal contaminants;

(D) addressing watershed protection or other coastal or marine conservation needs which cross jurisdictional boundaries;

(E) assessment, research, mapping and monitoring of coastal or marine resources and habitats, including, where appropriate, the establishment and monitoring of marine protected areas;

(F) addressing coastal conservation needs associated with seasonal or otherwise transient fluctuations in coastal populations;

(G) protection and restoration of natural coastline protective features, including control of coastal erosion;

(H) identification, prevention and control of invasive exotic and harmful non-indigenous species;

(I) assistance to local communities to assess, plan for and manage the impacts of growth and development on coastal or marine habitats and natural resources, including coastal community fishery assistance programs that encourage participation in sustainable fisheries;

(J) projects that promote research, education, training and advisory services in fields related to coastal and Great Lakes living marine resource use and management.

2. projects and activities for the conservation, protection or restoration of wetlands;

3. mitigating damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources, including such activities authorized under subtitle B of title IV of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 1321(c),(d));

4. planning assistance and administrative costs of complying with the provisions of the coastal impact assistance legislation;

5. implementation of Federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plans; and

6. mitigating impacts of Outer Continental Shelf activities through funding of (A) onshore infrastructure projects and (B) other public service needs intended to mitigate the environmental effects of Outer Continental Shelf activities: provided, that funds made

available under this paragraph shall not exceed 23 percent of the funds provided under the coastal impact assistance legislation.

#### Infrastructure and Public Service Needs

Only 23% of the total amount of funds allocated to the state, or approximately \$2.8 million, may be spent on infrastructure projects and other public service needs. In addition, infrastructure and public service projects must mitigate the environmental effects of outer continental shelf activity.

The state plan must clearly identify which projects fall into this category and the Governor must ensure that no more than 23% of the total allocated to the state is spent on eligible onshore infrastructure projects and other public service needs. In the plan, the description of these types of projects must include information on how the proposed project meets the statutory requirement of mitigating the environmental effects of outer continental shelf activities.

#### Federal Implementation

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is charged with administering the Coastal Impact Assistance Program. On June 5, in the Federal Register, NOAA published guidance for state plan development. The guidance may be found at the following address: <http://www.ocrm.nos.noaa.gov/pdf/ciapguidance060501fnl.pdf>

#### Allocations to Coastal Communities

Thirty-five percent, or \$4,273,053, of the state's total allocation will be distributed to coastal political subdivisions. Under the legislation, a coastal political subdivision is a county, parish, or any equivalent subdivision.

In Alaska, a coastal political subdivision equivalent is a borough or Coastal Resource Service Area (CRSA).

Based on the legislation, CIAP funds will be distributed to the eligible communities based on the following formula:

- (A) 25% allocated based on the ratio of the coastal political subdivision's coastal population to the coastal population of all coastal political subdivision's in the state;
- (B) 25% allocated based on the ratio of the coastal political subdivision's coastline miles to the coastline miles of all coastal political subdivision's in the state;
- (C) 50% allocated based on the relative distance of the coastal political subdivision from any OCS leased tract used to calculate the state's allocation using ratios that are inversely proportional to the distance between the point in the coastal political subdivision closest to the geographic center of each leased tract or portion, as determined by the Secretary.

The eligible coastal political subdivisions and allocations are:

Aleutians East Borough.....	\$134,279
Aleutians West CRSA.....	153,889
Municipality of Anchorage.....	603,869
Bering Straits CRSA.....	131,711
Bristol Bay Borough.....	19,694

Bristol Bay CRSA.....	45,410
Cenaliulriit CRSA.....	148,742
Haines Borough.....	32,623
City and Borough of Juneau.....	99,952
Kenai Peninsula Borough.....	208,665
Ketchikan Gateway Borough.....	75,515
Kodiak Island Borough.....	189,985
Lake and Peninsula Borough.....	70,270
Matanuska-Susitna Borough.....	131,216
North Slope Borough.....	1,939,680
Northwest Arctic Borough.....	102,530
City and Borough of Sitka.....	134,188
City and Borough of Yakutat.....	50,835

Total = \$4,273,053

### **Coastal Impact Assistance Plan**

The Governor must prepare and submit to the Secretary of Commerce a Coastal Impact Assistance Plan. The coastal impact assistance plan must contain a description of how the amounts provided under the program will be used. Under the plan submitted to NOAA, the State proposes using CIAP funds for the following projects:

- (1) Competitive grants program for education and conservation, restoration, enhancement or protection of coastal and marine areas (\$3.1 million).
- (2) Grant funds for Alaska coastal resource districts, primarily for coastal management plan updates (\$200,000).
- (3) Ocean, coastal and watershed information system (\$1.7 million).
- (4) Coastal resource inventory project (\$800,000).
- (5) Cataloging anadromous fish streams (\$1.0 million).
- (6) Regional coastal program planning (\$750,000).
- (7) Ocean, coastal and watershed symposium/report (\$150,000).
- (8) Implementation and administration of the CIAP Plan (\$235,670).

Total = \$7,935,670

### **Disbursement of CIAP Funds**

The state's plan was submitted to the Secretary of Commerce on July 3, 2001. NOAA has 90 days from receipt of the state's plan to review it and make an approval decision.

NOAA must know the specific details of a project, including budget details, before disbursing CIAP funds. NOAA may approve plans that provide only general information regarding the types of projects that will be undertaken. If projects are described generally, the state will work with NOAA to establish a mechanism that will allow NOAA to review and approve specific projects after initial plan approval. Funds will not be available for a specific project until NOAA approves the project details.

Components of the state plan, including borough and CRSA projects, that provide specific enough information may receive funding shortly after plan approval by NOAA. In addition, the Division of Governmental Coordination must be given legislative authority to accept the federal CIAP funds. On September 7, the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee approved authority to accept funds for six of the eight projects. They did not approve using funds for the Competitive Grant Program and the Ocean, Coastal and Watershed Symposium. DGC will

request authority to accept the remaining federal funds either at another LB&A meeting or during the legislative session.